EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The total Revenue Expenditure on education by Education Departments of Centre and States in 1993-94(RE) is about 3.5 percent of GNP.

(b) While there is no international norm, India's expenditure on education as percentage of GNP compares favourably with other developing countries.

(c) Social sector spending has not decreased. Total Central Plan outlay for major schemes of Social Sectors has increased by 45.54 percent from Rs. 9387 crores in 1993-94(BE) to Rs. 13662 crores in 1995-96(BE) as against the price rise of 28.5 percent during the same period.

(d) Faster economic Growth coupled with restructuring of Central and State budgets would enable achieving the goal of raising public outlay on education to six percent of GNP.

Memorandums submitted by Dalit Christian Association

1219. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of memorandum submitted by Dalit Christian Associations/Organisations to Government till date;

(b) the contents of these memoranda; and

(c) steps taken by Government to implement these demands?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) A large number of representations from Dalit Christian Associations/ Organisations demanding Scheduled Caste status and extension of reservation benefit as SCs have been received.

(c) The matter relating to extension of Scheduled Caste status to the Christians of Scheduled Caste origin is under consideration of the Government. In so far as the reservation in services is concerned, the Scheduled Caste converts to Christianity are eligible as OBC in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and UTs of Pondicherry and Daman & Diu. Reservation benefit in the services of Central Government and its Public Sector Undertakings is available to this community w.e.f. 8th September, 1993 under OBC category.

Newsitem on Honouring of Mathematician

1220. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report captioned Mathematician honoured abroad, ignored at home which appeared in the Asian Age dated the 20th September, 1995; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. G.P. Mishra worked in the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi as a research fellow. He could not be selected for the regular teaching post. No other details about him are known.

Updating of Text Books by NCERT

1221. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Executive Council of National Council of Educational Research and Training at its meeting on July 20, 1995 considered the need for updating the text books;